

**AMENDED CLAIMS**

[received by the International Bureau on 14 March 2005 (14.03.05);  
original claim 1 amended; remaining claims unchanged (1 page)]

1. Separating apparatus comprising a separating chamber in which cyclonic separation is able to take place, an inlet to the separating chamber and a shroud comprising a wall having a multiplicity of through-holes forming an outlet from the separating chamber, the shroud further comprising a lip extending away from the wall, the lip comprising a free distal end projecting into the separating chamber, characterized in that lip has a plurality of apertures therethrough.
2. Separating apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the separating chamber has a longitudinal axis and the lip extends substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis.
3. Separating apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the wall and the lip are generally cylindrical.
4. Separating apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the apertures are spaced from the through-holes by an imperforate portion of the wall and/or lip.
5. Separating apparatus as claimed in claims 3 and 4, wherein the breadth of the imperforate portion of the wall and/or lip is at least one tenth of the diameter of the wall.
6. Separating apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the breadth of the imperforate portion of the wall and/or lip is substantially equal to one tenth of the diameter of the wall.
7. Separating apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the combined area of the apertures at the upstream end thereof is no less than the area of the inlet to the separating chamber.